

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. An identifier indicating the status of each claim is provided.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus for receiving ~~the-an~~ input of a first data stream and a second data stream and for connecting said second data stream at a predetermined position of said first data stream and recording them, said information processing apparatus comprising:

separation means for separating each of said first data stream and said second data stream into video data and audio data;

first detection means for detecting ~~the-a~~ first amount of deviation, with respect to time, between said video data and said audio data of said first data stream, which are separated by said separation means, and ~~the-a~~ second amount of deviation, with respect to time, between said video data and said audio data of said second data stream, which are separated by said separation means;

first computation means for computing ~~the-an~~ amount of shift of said audio data of said second data stream with respect to said video data of said second data stream on the basis of said ~~two-first and second~~ first and second amounts of deviation detected by said first detection means;

creation means for combining said video data of said first data stream and said second data stream, said audio data of said first data stream and said second data stream, and system data containing said amount of shift computed by said first computation means in order to create a third data stream;

control means for controlling, based on said amount of shift computed by said first computation means, said creation means in such a way that said audio data of said second data stream is shifted in time with respect to said video data of said second data stream corresponding thereto; and

recording control means for controlling recording of said third data stream created by said creation means onto a recording medium.

2. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

second detection means for detecting ~~the~~ a first coding rate of said video data of one picture at ~~the~~ a connection point of said first data stream with respect to said second data stream, and ~~the~~ a second coding rate of said video data of one picture at ~~the~~ a connection point of said second data stream with respect to said first data stream; and

second computation means for computing, based on said ~~two~~ first and second coding rates detected by said second detection means, ~~the~~ an amount of still image data inserted at the connection point of said first data stream and said second data stream,

wherein, when it is determined by said second computation means that the amount of still image data is not zero, said creation means further combines said still image data, of the amount of still image data computed by said second computation means, with said video data of said first data stream and said second data stream, said audio data of said first data stream and said second data stream, and the system data containing said amount of shift computed by said first computation means in order to create said third data stream.

3. (Original) An information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said audio data of said second data stream is shifted by said control means so that said audio data is played back continuously without being re-encoded.

4. (Original) An information processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

reading control means for controlling reading of said first data stream recorded on said recording medium; and

input control means for controlling the input of said first data stream read by said reading control means into said separation means.

5. (Original) An information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said first data stream and said second data stream are MPEG data streams.

6. (Currently Amended) An information processing method for use with an information processing apparatus for receiving ~~the~~an input of a first data stream and a second data stream and for connecting said second data stream at a predetermined position of said first data stream and recording them, said information processing method comprising the steps of:

separating each of said first data stream and said second data stream into video data and audio data;

detecting ~~the~~a first amount of deviation, with respect to time, between said video data and said audio data of said first data stream, which are separated in said separation step, and ~~the~~a

second amount of deviation, with respect to time, between said video data and said audio data of said second data stream, which are separated in said separation step;

computing ~~the~~an amount of shift of said audio data of said second data stream with respect to said video data of said second data stream on the basis of said ~~two~~first and second amounts of deviation detected in said detection step;

combining said video data of said first data stream and said second data stream, said audio data of said first data stream and said second data stream, and system data containing said amount of shift computed in said computation step in order to create a third data stream;

controlling, based on said amount of shift computed in said computation step, said creation step in such a way that said audio data of said second data stream is shifted in time with respect to said video data of said second data stream corresponding thereto; and

controlling recording of said third data stream created in said creation step on a recording medium.

7. (Currently Amended) A recording medium having recorded thereon a computer-readable program for use with an information processing apparatus for receiving the input of a first data stream and a second data stream and for connecting said second data stream at a predetermined position of said first data stream and recording them, said program comprising the steps of:

separating each of said first data stream and said second data stream into video data and audio data;

detecting ~~the~~a first amount of deviation, with respect to time, between said video data and said audio data of said first data stream, which are separated in said separation step, and ~~the~~a

second amount of deviation, with respect to time, between said video data and said audio data of said second data stream, which are separated in said separation step;

computing ~~the~~an amount of shift of said audio data of said second data stream with respect to said video data of said second data stream on the basis of said ~~two~~first and second amounts of deviation detected in said detection step;

combining said video data of said first data stream and said second data stream, said audio data of said first data stream and said second data stream, and system data containing said amount of shift computed in said computation step in order to create a third data stream;

controlling, based on said amount of shift computed in said computation step, said creation step in such a way that said audio data of said second data stream is shifted in time with respect to said video data of said second data stream corresponding thereto; and

controlling recording of said third data stream created in said creation step onto a recording medium.

8. (Withdrawn – Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus into which is loaded a recording medium having recorded thereon a first data stream, said information processing apparatus comprising:

recording control means for controlling recording, on said recording medium, of a second data stream ~~which~~that is connected to a first position of said first data stream so that these streams are played back,

wherein said recording control means controls recording of said second data stream ~~in such a way~~so that recording of said second data stream is started from a second position ~~which~~that is shifted by a predetermined time from said first position of said first data stream.

9. (Withdrawn – Currently Amended) An information processing method
for use with an information processing apparatus into which is loaded a recording medium
having recorded thereon a first data stream, said information processing method comprising the
step of:

controlling recording, on said recording medium, of a second data stream ~~which~~that is
connected to a first position of said first data stream so that these streams are played back,

wherein, in said recording control step, recording of said second data stream is controlled
~~in such a way~~so that recording of said second data stream is started from a second position ~~which~~
that is shifted by a predetermined time from said first position of said first data stream.

10. (Withdrawn – Currently Amended) A recording medium having
recorded thereon a computer-readable program for use with an information processing apparatus
into which is loaded a recording medium having recorded thereon a first data stream, said
program comprising the step of:

controlling recording, on said recording medium, of a second data stream ~~which~~that is
connected to a first position of said first data stream so that these streams are played back,

wherein, in said recording control step, recording of said second data stream is controlled
~~in such a way~~so that recording of said second data stream is started from a second position ~~which~~
that is shifted by a predetermined time from said first position of said first data stream.

11. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus
into which is loaded a recording medium having recorded thereon a first data stream and a

second data stream ~~which that~~ is connected to a predetermined position of said first data stream so that these streams are played back, said information processing apparatus comprising:

reading control means for controlling reading of said first data stream and said second data stream ~~which are recorded on said recording medium;~~

separation means for separating each of said first data stream and said second data stream, ~~whose reading is controlled by the reading control means, to~~ into respective video data and audio data;

first detection means for detecting ~~the a~~ first amount of deviation, with respect to time, between said video data and said audio data of said first data stream, ~~which are separated by said separation means;~~ and ~~the a~~ second amount of deviation, with respect to time, between said video data and said audio data of said second data stream, ~~which are separated by said separation means;~~

first computation means for computing ~~the an~~ an amount of shift of said audio data of said second data stream with respect to said video data of said second data stream on the basis of said ~~two~~ first and second amounts of deviation detected by said first detection means;

delaying means for delaying said audio data of said second data stream;

control means for controlling, based on said amount of shift computed by said first computation means, said delaying means in ~~such a way so~~ so that said audio data of said second data stream is shifted in time with respect to said video data of said second data stream corresponding thereto; and

rewriting means for rewriting time information contained in said video data and said audio data of said second data stream.

12. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus
according to claim 11, further comprising:

second detection means for detecting ~~the~~ a first coding rate of said video data of one picture at ~~the~~ a connection point of said first data stream with respect to said second data stream, and ~~the~~ a second coding rate of said video data of one picture at ~~the~~ a connection point of said second data stream with respect to said first data stream;

second computation means for computing, based on said ~~two~~ first and second coding rates detected by said second detection means, ~~the~~ an amount of still image data inserted at the connection point of said first data stream and said second data stream; and

insertion means for inserting said still image data, of ~~the~~ an amount of still image data computed by said second computation means, into the connection point between said video data of said first data stream and said video data of said second data stream when it is determined by said second computation means that the amount of still image data is not zero.

13. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) An information processing method
for use with an information processing apparatus into which is loaded a recording medium having recorded thereon a first data stream and a second data stream which is connected to a predetermined position of said first data stream so that these streams are played back, said information processing method comprising the steps of:

controlling reading of said first data stream and said second data stream, ~~which are recorded on said recording medium;~~

separating each of said first data stream and said second data stream, ~~whose reading is controlled by the process of the reading control step,~~ into respective video data and audio data;

detecting ~~the~~ a first amount of deviation, with respect to time, between said video data and said audio data of said first data stream, ~~which are separated by the process of said separation step~~; and ~~the~~ a second amount of deviation, with respect to time, between said video data and said audio data of said second data stream, ~~which are separated by the process of said separation step~~;

computing ~~the~~ an amount of shift of said audio data of said second data stream with respect to said video data of said second data stream on the basis of said ~~two~~ first and second amounts of deviation ~~detected by the process of said detection step~~;

delaying said audio data of said second data stream;

controlling, based on said amount of shift ~~computed by the process of said computation step~~, said delaying step in such a way that said audio data of said second data stream is shifted in time with respect to said video data of said second data stream corresponding thereto; and

rewriting time information contained in said video data and said audio data of said second data stream.

14. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) A recording medium having recorded thereon a computer-readable program for use with an information processing apparatus into which is loaded a recording medium having recorded thereon a first data stream and a second data stream which is connected to a predetermined position of said first data stream so that these streams are played back, said program comprising the steps of:

controlling reading of said first data stream and said second data stream, ~~which are recorded on said recording medium~~;

separating each of said first data stream and said second data stream, ~~whose reading is controlled by the process of the reading control step,~~ into respective video data and audio data;

detecting ~~the~~ a first amount of deviation, with respect to time, between said video data and said audio data of said first data stream, ~~which are separated by the process said separation step,~~ and ~~the~~ a second amount of deviation, with respect to time, between said video data and said audio data of said second data stream, ~~which are separated by the process of said separation step;~~

computing ~~the~~ an amount of shift of said audio data of said second data stream with respect to said video data of said second data stream on the basis of said ~~two~~ first and second amounts of deviation ~~detected by the process of said detection step;~~

delaying said audio data of said second data stream;

controlling, based on said amount of shift ~~computed in said computation step,~~ said delaying step ~~in such a way~~ so that said audio data of said second data stream is shifted in time with respect to said video data of said second data stream corresponding thereto; and

rewriting time information contained in said video data and said audio data of said second data stream.